



Administration Message

Dear Fellow Residents:

It is hard to believe that our summer, as hot and dry as it was, is coming to an end. Hopefully everyone was able to find something special to do and to enjoy it. It goes fast and it never seems there is enough time to do all the things we planned to do. This summer was busy for your Village Board of Trustees in meeting the challenges facing our community. A trustee has resigned and a new one was appointed, the VBT passed an Appropriations Ordinance and a new Budget as well as ordinances regulating video gaming and adjusting late fees for unpaid water bills that apply to IHP water accounts only. Not only will there be an election this November for president but also IHP electors will have the opportunity to vote on two significant referendums that will provide input to the Village Board about our future. Read on for the details!

Trustee Coleman Resigns

Trustee Carol Coleman recently tendered her resignation effective at midnight on July 31, 2012 citing demanding family commitments and responsibilities that she felt would negatively affect her ability to fulfill the requirements of serving as Village Trustee. Trustee Coleman was first elected to the trustee's position in 1993 and has served as the Village Board's liaison for the Public Works and Water Departments. Trustee Coleman has served the Village diligently and faithfully for over 19 years. It has been an honor and pleasure for me to serve with Carol as a fellow trustee and over the past five years as mayor. She came to our VBT meetings well-prepared, with focus, and clarity of purpose – to do what is best for our entire Village. Never one to shy away from difficult or controversial issues, Trustee Coleman will be deeply missed by all of us. IHP is a better Village because of her dedicated and tireless service to all of us. Thank you Trustee Coleman! We wish you well!

To fill the opening on the Village Board resulting from the resignation, I appointed PZC Chairman **Dennis Schermerhorn** to fill the Trustee Coleman vacancy with the advice and consent of the Village Board at the VBT meeting on August 9, 2012. Dennis took the oath of office at the August VBT meeting and will serve the remaining portion of Trustee Coleman's unexpired term. Dennis Schermerhorn has served on the Planning and Zoning Commission since 2002 and has been the Chairman since 2006.

He obtained his undergraduate degree in Business and Economics from IIT and his Juris Doctorate from Chicago-Kent College of Law. Chairman Schermerhorn is well-qualified and experienced in local municipal affairs and has demonstrated long and dedicated service to our community

through his work on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Like Trustee Coleman, Dennis is a focused and professional individual who will bring his own skilled perspective to the challenges facing Indian Head Park. He will be an immediate asset to our Village Administration. We look forward to working with him!

Electrical Aggregation Referendum

Starting at our July meeting and culminating at the VBT meeting in August, your Village Board has discussed and decided to authorize the placement of a question on the November ballot that will grant the Village the authority to seek a low cost electric supplier for the entire Village. If the majority of the electors of IHP vote in favor of this question, the Village will be able to negotiate on behalf of our residents with suppliers using an economy of scale to seek lower cost electricity for our residents. If the referendum is approved, the detail work including public hearings as required by law will commence. Our neighboring communities have successfully sought such authority and are in the process of implementing their programs. Please note, this will not be mandatory on anyone and everyone will have the right to opt out of the program. Com Ed, and not the Village, will continue to be the distributor of the electricity, maintain the lines, provide repairs, and send out the bills. If the power goes out, you would still call Com Ed. More details will be provided in the future in our newsletter and on our website.

Revenue Referendum

In connection with our Appropriations Ordinance and Budget discussions, the VBT also considered and approved an ordinance placing a revenue referendum for general corporate purposes on the November ballot as well. Significantly, this new one question referendum is lesser in impact on all of us. If approved by the IHP electors, the referendum would grant the Village an additional \$200,000 per year. The funds would not be earmarked for specific uses as they were on the General Primary ballot last March but would allow the Village Board to provide services to better meet the needs and wants of all our residents and to maintain our community in the manner that befits our citizens. More about this will be provided in the future.

Water Bill Late Fees

At our June meeting, the VBT passed Ordinance 2012-9 that increased the late fees charged to customers of the IHP water system. The new ordinance keeps the existing 10%

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late fee on water accounts 30 days overdue and increases it to 15% for each 30 days overdue thereafter.

In addition, there will now be a \$25 charge for the administrative cost in posting a final water shut off notice and a \$50 charge for each trip made by a Water Department employee to shut off and to turn-on the water supply to an unpaid water account. We thank the vast majority of our residents who timely pay their water bills and through this ordinance shift some of the costs (meaning our residents' costs) back to the few who by not paying on time cause increased costs to the rest of us. For more information, residents may call the Village office.

Video Gaming Ordinance

Also in June, your Village Board passed Ordinance 2012-10 that implements local regulations concerning video gaming in IHP pursuant to the State of Illinois Video Gaming Act. In short, this ordinance establishes a protocol for applications (we have not had any and none are pending now) and the regulation of establishments seeking to implement video gaming (there are none at this time).

In order to provide video gaming, a local business must possess a full service liquor license allowing for the sales and consumption of liquor on the premises and meet Illinois and our local regulations (there are only a few places in our Village that would qualify). For your information, should an establishment in town seek and be authorized to provide video gaming the village could realize revenue from this. A study used by the General Assembly estimates that a municipality's share of tax revenue generated by a video gaming machine to be about \$2,500 per year. Indian Head Park could receive a total of \$37,500. The Illinois Video Gaming Act also specifies a fee for non-home rule communities of \$50 for the application and licensing for each video gaming machine per year.

Lyonsville Cemetery 150th Anniversary Civil War Ceremony

On Saturday, September 8, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the Lyonsville Church cemetery the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will host a gravestone re-dedication for the 12 Union sol-

diers buried there and commemorate the 150th anniversary in honor of about 72 men from our area who mustered into the Union Army on September 6, 1862. The program includes Abraham and Mrs. Lincoln re-enactors, presentations by local historians, and both a canon and rifle salute. This looks to be an interesting and fun event that will give all of us a chance to learn a little bit of history about the people from our area and those who stepped up to answer our Country's call in deciding what type of Nation we should be. I hope to see you there!

As school begins, we wish all of our students continued success in their studies. We support their teachers and admire their dedication to educating our children. We applaud the parents for their sacrifices in providing the opportunity for their children to learn and for the parents' support of the teachers. School means more kids and more traffic on our streets. **Drive carefully and watch out for the students.** They are our future!

Finally, I would like to remind you all that the 11th Anniversary of the 9/11 attack on our Nation is coming shortly. Please take a moment that day to thank a member (past or present) of our military for protecting us, pray for those men and women who are now standing guard, and to honor the lives of those who perished that day as a symbol of support to their survivors.

Have a fun and safe Labor Day weekend!

Respectfully, Richard S. Andrews, mayor

TRADING POST

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Smoke Signals
(708) 246-3137

Volume 43, Number 12
Circulation 2000

Smoke Signals is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525
(708) 246-3080
www.indianheadpark-il.gov

Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and
Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Mayor:

Richard S. Andrews

Trustees:

Deborah A. Anselmo Carol Coleman
Brian T. Bailey Norman L. Schnauffer
Anne Bermier Matthew P. Walsh II

Village Clerk:

Joseph V. Consolo

Chief of Police/ Administrator:

Frank Alonzo, Jr.

Police Dept.

Non-Emergency 246-4534
Emergency 9-1-1

Fire Dept.

Non-Emergency 352-9229
Emergency 9-1-1

The advertisements and notices of privately sponsored events or activities contained in *Smoke Signals* are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Village of Indian Head Park, its officials or employees. The inclusion of a product advertisement or notice of a privately sponsored event or activity herein should not be construed as an endorsement by the Village of that product, event or activity.

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees: 7:30 p.m.:

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Planning and Zoning Commission: 7:30 p.m.:

Tuesday, September 4, 2012

Fire and Police Commission: 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 6, 2012

E-911 Board: 6:30 p.m.

No meeting scheduled at this time.

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at
201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

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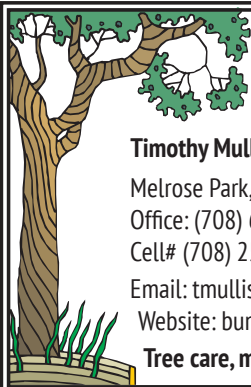
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TEEPEE TOPICS

Heritage Center Announcement

Dear Indian Head Park Residents,

We, who have enjoyed our community sometimes overlook how fortunate we are to have a volunteer library at our disposal. Located at 6250 Wolf Road, our library is now a place of beauty due to the hard work and help of many, especially the past Mayor Rich Pellegrino and the present Mayor Rich Andrews. In the fall, we are planning a book sale and an open house – a time for all of you to visit and enjoy the fruits of our labor. These special events are free to all residents of Indian Head Park. The date will be announced on the Village Website and on our sign located in front of the Heritage Center. Our hours are Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 3:00 p.m. Hope to see you at our Heritage House Library! **Jane Kuhn, Head Librarian.**

Walter Aalbrechtse, age 85, passed away in April. He was the husband of Marsha Aalbrechtse, the father of Suzanne and Phil Carlson and grandfather of Peter, Tom, David and Sarah Carlson. Peter also works for the Indian Head Park Public Works Department.

David Carlson will be returning this month from military service in Afghanistan. Welcome home David!!!

A Lifesource blood drive, co-sponsored by Lyonsville Church and Highlands Presbyterian Church, will be held on Thursday, September 20th from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Lyonsville Church at 6871 Joliet Road in Indian Head Park. To schedule an appointment, please contact Judy at (630) 325-3208. Walk-ins are also always welcomed!

The LaGrange Masonic Lodge and Azure Masonic Lodge will be hosting a Child Identification Program (free of charge) on Saturday, October 13th at the Pleasantview Fire Protection District from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 1970 Plainfield Road in the LaGrange Highlands.

"A River Thru History – Des Plaines Valley Rendezvous, will be held on September 8th and 9th in Columbia Woods Forest Preserve from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. For further details on the events that will take place, please visit the Website: www.ariverthruhistory.com

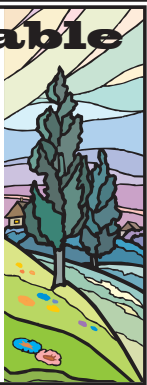
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